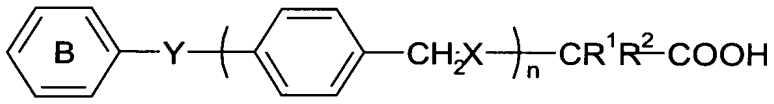
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 to 14 (canceled)

15 (new): A method of alleviating systemic sclerosis in a warm blooded animal, which comprises administering an effective amount of at least one compound having the formula (I)



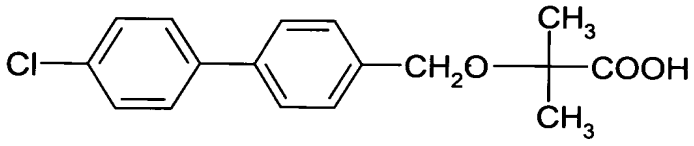
(I)

in which X stands for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the imino (-NH-) or sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical, Y stands for a direct linkage, or for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical or for the radical of the formula $-CR^1R^2-$, wherein R^1 and R^2 which may be the same or different are hydrogen, alkyl or aryl radicals or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together to form a cycloalkyl ring, and ring B may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and alkyl and aryl radicals, when n is an integer having the value 1, or Y stands for the oxygen or

sulphur atom or for the sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical, and ring B may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and alkyl and aryl radicals when n has the value 0, or an ester, amide or salt thereof.

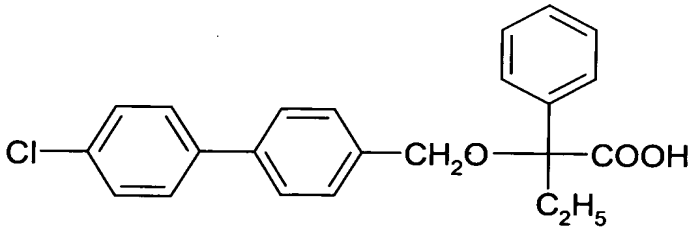
16 (new): A method as claimed in claim 15 in which R^1 is selected from hydrogen and 1-4C alkyl, R^2 is selected from hydrogen, 1-4C alkyl and phenyl which may optionally be substituted by at least one halogen atom, or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together to form a cyclohexyl ring, and ring B may optionally contain one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and 1-4C alkyl.

17 (new): A method as claimed in claim 15 in which the compound has the formula (II)



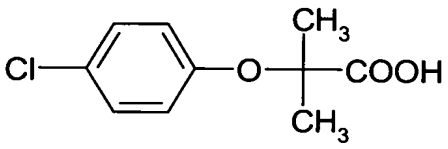
(II)

18 (new): A method as claimed in claim 15 in which the compound has the formula (III)



(III)

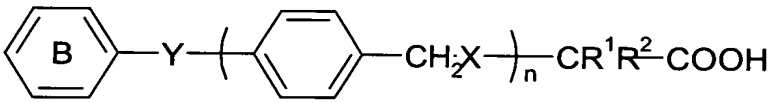
19 (new): A method as claimed in claim 15 in which the compound has the formula (IV)



(IV)

20 (new): A method as claimed in claim 15 in which the warm blooded animal is a human.

21 (new): A method of alleviating muscular dystrophy in a warm blooded animal, which comprises administering an effective amount of at least one compound having the formula (I)



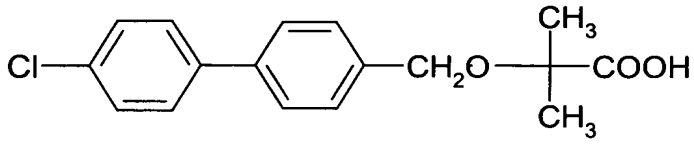
(I)

in which X stands for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the imino (-NH-) or sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical, Y stands for a direct linkage, or for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical or for the radical of the formula $-CR^1R^2-$, wherein R^1 and R^2 which may be the same or different are hydrogen, alkyl or aryl radicals or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together to form a cycloalkyl ring, and ring B may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and alkyl and aryl radicals, when n is an

integer having the value 1, or Y stands for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical, and ring B may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and alkyl and aryl radicals when n has the value 0, or an ester, amide or salt thereof.

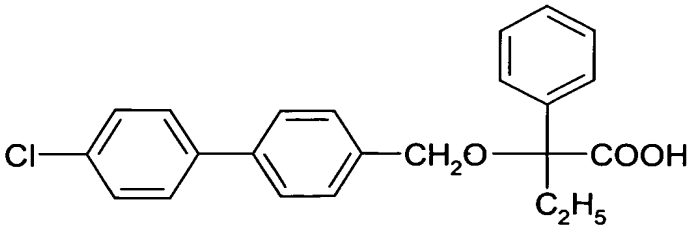
22 (new): A method as claimed in claim 21 in which R^1 is selected from hydrogen and 1-4C alkyl, R^2 is selected from hydrogen, 1-4C alkyl and phenyl which may optionally be substituted by at least one halogen atom, or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together to form a cyclohexyl ring, and ring B may optionally contain one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and 1-4C alkyl.

23 (new): A method as claimed in claim 21 in which the compound has the formula (II)



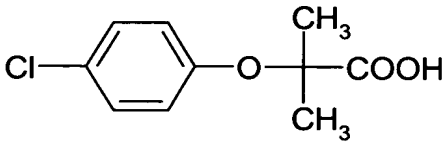
(II)

24 (new): A method as claimed in claim 21 in which the compound has the formula (III)



(III)

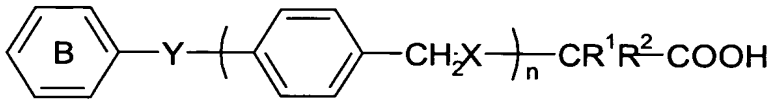
25 (new): A method as claimed in claim 21 in which the compound has the formula (IV)



(IV)

26 (new): A method as claimed in claim 21 in which the warm blooded animal is a human.

27 (new): A method of alleviating complications from diabetes in a warm blooded animal, which comprises administering an effective amount of at least one compound having the formula (I)



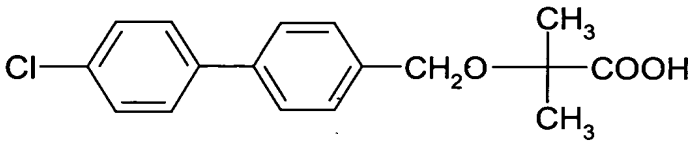
(I)

in which X stands for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the imino (-NH-) or sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical, Y stands for a direct linkage, or for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical or for the radical of the formula $-CR^1R^2-$, wherein R^1 and R^2 which may be the same or different are hydrogen, alkyl or aryl radicals or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together to form a cycloalkyl ring, and ring B may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and alkyl and aryl radicals, when n is an

integer having the value 1, or Y stands for the oxygen or sulphur atom or for the sulphonyl ($-SO_2-$) radical, and ring B may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and alkyl and aryl radicals when n has the value 0, or an ester, amide or salt thereof.

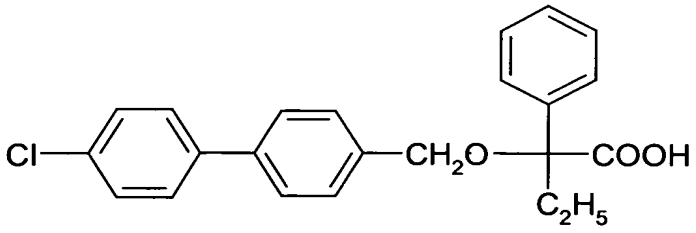
28 (new): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which R^1 is selected from hydrogen and 1-4C alkyl, R^2 is selected from hydrogen, 1-4C alkyl and phenyl which may optionally be substituted by at least one halogen atom, or R^1 and R^2 may be joined together to form a cyclohexyl ring, and ring B may optionally contain one or more substituents selected from halogen atoms and 1-4C alkyl.

29 (new): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which the compound has the formula (II)



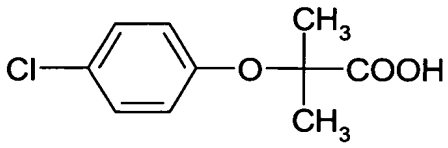
(II)

30 (new): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which the compound has the formula (III)



(III)

31 (new): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which the compound has the formula (IV)



(IV)

32 (new): A method as claimed in claim 27 in which the warm blooded animal is a human.